

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5588

To prohibit the Secretary of the Interior from offering for oil and gas leasing or any related activity any tract in the Lease Sale 193 Area of the Alaska Outer Continental Shelf Region until the Secretary determines whether to list the polar bear as a threatened species or an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 11, 2008

Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mr. INSLEE, Mr. HINCHEY, and Mr. LARSON of Connecticut) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To prohibit the Secretary of the Interior from offering for oil and gas leasing or any related activity any tract in the Lease Sale 193 Area of the Alaska Outer Continental Shelf Region until the Secretary determines whether to list the polar bear as a threatened species or an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SCHEDULE FOR OIL AND GAS LEASING ACTIVI-**
2 **TIES FOR TRACTS WITHIN THE LEASE SALE**
3 **193 AREA.**

4 (a) SCHEDULE.—The Secretary of the Interior may
5 not offer for oil and gas leasing or any related activity
6 (including approving any seismic activity, offering any new
7 lease, or approving any exploration or development plan)
8 any tract located in the Lease Sale 193 Area of the Alaska
9 Outer Continental Shelf Region before the earlier of—

10 (1) the effective date of—

11 (A) the listing of the polar bear as a
12 threatened species or an endangered species
13 under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16
14 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.); and

15 (B) the final decision regarding the deter-
16 mination of critical habitat for such species
17 under that Act; or

18 (2) the date the Secretary publishes a deter-
19 mination that such listing is not warranted.

20 (b) LEASE SALE 193 AREA DEFINED.—In this sec-
21 tion the term “Lease Sale 193 Area” means the area of-
22 fered for lease in the Final Notice of Sale (FNOS), OCS
23 Oil and Gas Lease Sale 193, Chukchi Sea published in
24 the Federal Register by the Minerals Management Service
25 on January 2, 2008 (73 Fed. Reg. 209).